be elected as a member of the committee on communal considerations. Till that baneful communal mentality changes, it is always safe that the Committee is nominated by persons in whom Government have confidence. I am glad that different members have spoken about it. I request that Government will kindly remember the opinions expressed by the honourable members of this House also in regard to the constitution of the committee. I am sorry that certain members have spoken not in very good terms about the committee that functioned before. I also had the honour to be a member of that committee and I may say that there was nothing wrong about the constitution except that it was too large for any consultative purposes. No member of that committee, I should say, was a poor specimen. In fact it consisted of such eminent honourable members like Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla, Mr. M. Govindan and men like Messrs. P. K. Narayana Pillai, Changanacherry K. Parameswaran Pillai and the Principal of the Scott Christian College. It shows that at least a few members there were who were particularly competent to give advice in matters of education.

President: I take it that the honourable member does not press his motion.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: No Sir. I beg permission to withdraw it.

The motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

RESOLUTION RE: CULTIVATION OF TREES THAT SUPPLY BEEDI LEAVES.

Mr. James Fletcher: Sir.....

President: Steps have already been taken for the cultivation of Beedy plants. The honourable member may move the resolution and I shall ask the Director to explain what has been done with regard to the matter.

Mr. James Fletcher: Sir, I beg to move that *"This Council recommends to Government that the Director of Agriculture be authorised to select suitable sites for rearing of trees that supply Beedi leaves and to plant the same at an early date."*

President: It will be wise to listen to what has been done.

Mr. James Fletcher: Sir, I may say just a few words which may be useful.....

President: Even those useful words may not be necessary if you know what has been done by the department.

Mr. James Fletcher: I do not advertise the use of Beedi. All the same, I am taking things as they are.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President: It is likely that Beedi may be cheaper than cigarettes and if people want to use it they may do so.

Mr. James Fletcher: We have got a large number of people in Travancore who use Beedi and it is used in such large quantities that we have to buy the concomittants that make up the Beedi. Beedi is made up of two things; one, tobacco and the other, leaf of a particular tree. These leaves are purchased by the people of Travancore State to the tune of Rs. 2 lakhs and odd every year. Of course, we may not be able to produce tobacco but it is quite possible to produce the leaves that cover the tobacco. It has been found out from statistics that during the years 1111, 1112 and 1113, the amount of money spent was greater and greater every year and in 1113 we have spent a sum of Rs. 1,95,000 for Beedi leaves. Government are aware of this large sum of money being sent out of Travancore. It is a drain on this State and, as far as possible, that drain of money should be checked. In the Financial Secretary's speech also he refers to this fact. He says "it is also proposed to introduce in Travancore plantation of Beedy leaves and improve the technique of the cultivation of the leaves." Sir, I am happy to say that Government have taken an active interest in checking this unnecessary waste of money from Travancore. I may even go to the extent of saying that we can not only be self-sufficient but even sell these leaves to outsiders.

Then the only point that has to be taken into consideration is about the suitability of places fit for the cultivation of these plants. I am also aware of the fact that the Forest Department has not been sleeping over this matter. They have been making experiments and planting these trees in various places and they have found out that there are very suitable places in certain parts of Travancore.

Mr. M. Govindan: May I know the name of the tree from which beedi leaves are taken?

Mr. James Fletcher: It is not "Beedi trees," a tree that gives the leaves which are used for making beedi.

Mr. M. Govindan: May I know the name of that tree?

Mr. James Fletcher: In Malayalam and Tamil it is known as Beedi tree. Unfortunately that is not the correct name.

Mr. K R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture*): In Malayalam it is called Beedi tree. Its Latin name is "Dyospyros Melonxyhon."

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan: ബീഡിയിലപോലെ ഉപയോഗിക്കാവുന്ന ഇലകളുള്ള മറ്റുവല്ല വൃക്ഷങ്ങളും ഇവിടെയുണ്ടോ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. James Fletcher: ബീഡിയിലയ്ക്ക് പകരം വേറെ ഇല ഉപയോഗിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ല. ബീഡിയിലയും ബീഡിപുക്കയുടെ മുള്ള വാസന ഒന്നുപോലെയിരിക്കണം.

The fragrance of leaves must agree with that of the tobacco that is used inside. However we can plant the very same kind of trees that produce Beedi leaves in our own place, in Travancore.

As I said, it is even possible for us to export these leaves and I am happy to say that the experiments of the Forest Department in this direction have been successful. My submission is that one officer should be made responsible for this cultivation and making the leaves available for the whole of Travancore so that Travancore State need not waste so much of money. Either the Director of Agriculture or the Conservator of Forests should take up the work and show to the public that they have done some substantial work in that direction by planting these trees and making the leaves available to the whole State so that no more money may be sent out of Travancore. With these words I commend the resolution to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I second it.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, the honourable member, the mover of the resolution, himself has admitted that action is being taken on the lines of the resolution that is placed before the House. I would invite the attention of the honourable member to page 6 of the Administration Report of the Development Department in which it is stated that the Special Officer who was deputed to Hyderabad and other places where Beedy leaves are cultivated on a large scale has come back and the Forest Department has started the cultivation of Beedi trees in different parts of the State. So, all that is contemplated in the resolution is being carried out and action has already been taken in that direction. In view of what is being done, I hope the honourable member will withdraw the resolution.

Mr. James Fletcher: May I know whether the next year's account for the purchase of Beedi leaves will be much less than what it has been before?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: The plantations are only just being started and leaves cannot be harvested immediately after the sowing of the seeds.

Mr. James Fletcher: May I know how many years it will take?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: About 7 to 8 years.

Mr. M. Govindan: May I know whether Government will give grants to companies registered for the purpose of cultivating Beedy trees?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: I am not in a position to give an answer now.

Mr. James Fletcher: In view of the fact that Government have already taken action in bringing this resolution to success, I beg permission to withdraw the resolution.

The resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

The following resolution was not moved :—

"Mr. A. Easwara Pillai: *This Council recommends to Government that a Transport Board be constituted, consisting of members of the Legislative bodies and officers of the Transport Department, to supervise and control the working of the Transport Department.*"

RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF A PORTER TO STATE TRANSPORT BUSES.

Mr. T. K. Kittan (*Vaikom, Kottayam and Changanacherry* cum *Peermade*): സാർ, താഴെപറയുന്ന പ്രമേയത്തെ ഈ സഭയുടെ പരിഗണനക്കായി ഞാൻ സമർപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

"ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ട് ബസ്സുകളിൽ യാത്രചെയ്യുന്നവരുടെ ലഗേജ്കൾ കയറുന്നതിനും ഇറക്കുന്നതിനും ഓരോ ബസ്സിലും ഓരോ പോർട്ടറെ 'പോർട്ടർ' എന്ന ബാഡ്ജ് കൊടുത്തു യാത്രക്കാരിൽനിന്നും കൂലിവാങ്ങാൻ വ്യവസ്ഥചെയ്തു നിയമിക്കണമെന്നു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോട് ഈ യോഗം ശുപാർശ ചെയ്യുന്നു."

[*This Council recommends to Government that a healthy porter with the badge "Porter" be appointed in each of the Government Transport Buses, for taking the luggage to and from the buses with the stipulation that remuneration for the work should be obtained from the passengers concerned.*]

ഈ പ്രമേയത്തിനു ഒരു വിശദീകരണം ആവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ട് ബസ്സുകളിൽ പെട്ടിയുംപ്രമാണവും കൊണ്ടു യാത്രചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള എല്ലാവർക്കും ഈ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിനെപ്പറ്റി നല്ലവണ്ണം അറിയാം. ഇപ്പോൾ വച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥ കൺഡക്ടർമാർ സാമാനം കയറുകയും ഇറക്കുകയും ചെയ്യണമെന്നാണ്. അതു അവരെക്കൊണ്ടു സാദ്ധ്യമല്ലെന്നു ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നു. ഒരു തോളിൽ പണം ഇടുന്നതിനുള്ള തോൽസഞ്ചി. മറേറ തോളിൽ അഞ്ചെട്ടാ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly